SOUTH VIET NAM In Struggle

CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

5th Year

No 101

June 15 1971

ADDRESS:

HT 1217 B-SVN

C/O

DAZIMINA HANOI

19, Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, DRVN

and all RSVN Embassies, Information Bureaux in foreign countries

SEP 16 1971

Cont Copy

DISTRIBUTED BY

GREAT EASTERN BOOK CO.

PO BOX 20005 HONG KONG

editorial

PRG Image Gains More Lustre

LIKE in Viet Nam, the 2nd anniversary of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the RSVN was observed in many places in the world.

In the socialist countries, great rallies took place with the attendance of party and state leaders and representatives of mass organizations. Emulation drives were started in factories, construction sites and state farms to commemorate this great festival of the South Vietnamese people and show practical support to them against US aggression.

In other independent countries celebrations were held in varied forms. Exhibitions, film shows, soirées, receptions were organized by Asian, African and Latin American friends in order to show their warm backing to our resistance for national salvation.

In many capitalist countries, intellectuals' and students' organizations, Viet Nam Solidarity Committees and Support Viet Nam Committees staged teach-ins, meetings, demonstrations, marches in favour of the South Vietnamese people and the PRG. The participants displayed or chanted slogans claiming American troop withdrawal, termination of US criminal aggression, a time-limit for the US pullout. In some countries with governments tied to the US apronstrings, the armed police called in to control demonstrations or brutalize protesters, failed to prevent Viet Nam supporters from displaying their solidarity with our fighting countrymen and the PRG. In the United States itself where the rulers are past masters in fascist cruelties against, and hoodwinking of, the masses, tumultuous actions were taken for "peace now", a deadline to the GIs' repatriation, the scrapping of Thieu-Ky-Khiem, so that the South Vietnamese may settle their own affairs among themselves. American peace fighters' and Viet Nam war veterans' parading the PRG flag in these was an act of unequivocal recognition by freedom- and justice-loving Americans of the Provisional Revolutionary Government as the authentic and legitimate representative of the South Vietnamese people.

Thus, once again the world's peoples reaffirmed their resolute backing to our people and the PRG of the RSVN in their fight for national independence and the defence of peace. In ebullient drives and with diversified methods they again made clear their determination to side with the Vietnamese people, to recognize the PRG as qualified representative of the people of South Viet Nam.

The multifarious manifestations of sympathy across the world on the second anniversary of the PRG, just as the many messages addressed to it and liberation organizations by progressive governments and political and social organizations have spelled out unmistakably the PRG rising credit in the international arena.

(Continued on page 2)

GIs displaying PRG flag in front of the US Capitol during the "Spring Offensive 71" in USA

PRG Image Gains...

(Continued from page 1)

ON the other hand the American imperialists have spared no efforts to doll up the Saigon administration. They keep boasting that many governments have recognized it and established diplomatic relations with it. Has recognition of the Thieu-Ky gang by their own confederates, Chiang Kai-shek, Pak Jung Hi and Kittikachorn any legal value? Does the number cited by the Americans and their henchmen of governments friendly to them truly reflect the credit of the Saigon regime? Everyone is aware that in the very lands of US "allies" which have recognized the Saigon regime under the pressure of the dollar, US information halls and Embassies have been ransacked, that Saigon's "three stripes" flag has been trampled underfoot, torn to pieces or set on fire. Nguyen Cao Ky and Nguyen Van Thieu must not forget the showers of rotten potatoes and eggs with which Americans, Australians, New Zealanders, Filipinos received them in their countries. Representatives of the "Viet Nam Republic" have been left to cool their heels in vain in the lobbies of international conferences. Ky himself was even given the hint, while in Paris on his way to Washington, that he would not be welcomed to the US, Saigon's greatest "ally," and had to return home. What then can conceivably serve as a yardstick for the Saigon client regime's influence? How can this latter find a place in foreign hearts when it is unable to secure a foothold in its own land? How can it take pride in its "national flag" when in the eyes of the world's peoples it is dirtier than rags?

The real gauge of the authority of a state and its credit abroad must be measured by the confidence of the people it governs. At home, an administration wields effective authority so long as it enjoys the trust and support of the people, and so long as the people defend and strengthen it and implement its policies. Abroad, besides official diplomatic recognition by other countries as authentic spokesman of its people its credit depends on whether or not it has enlisted the sympathy, approval and support of public opinion with regard to its political position and foreign policy.

Obviously, the Thieu-Ky-Khiem administration is facing violent opposition within and without Viet Nam. It is more isolated and weakened than never before, and scorned everywhere in the world despite Washington's efforts to give it a "democratic" and "constitutional" appearance.

IN contrast, the PRG, though only two years old, has struck deep roots into the people who take an active part in safeguarding and consolidating it. And that is what has earned it a position in keeping with the South Vietnamese people's gallant fight, an increasing prestige on the international scene. The commemorations of its second anniversary in numerous countries have shown how secure its place is in the hearts of the world's peoples who have staunchly cast in their lots with the South Vietnamese patriots. They have constituted a tremendous support, a valuable stimulus and a most important factor which helps strengthen revolutionary power in South Viet Nam, and further pushes our resistance to American aggression toward total victory.

The many-sided support of the peoples of all continents, of political, social and religious organizations, and progressive governments has been for us a strength-replenishing source. Our own extraordinary exertions, and the backing, militant solidarity, wholehearted assistance of people everywhere have made it possible for us to achieve most substantial successes and big step forward. We feel all the more grateful to our friends the world over for their warm support and effective help as we are elated by, and proud of, the continuous growth of our revolutionary power and the successes of our people and the fraternal peoples of Cambodia and Laos. We extend our sincerest thanks and best wishes to friends and brothers in the five continents, especially to the people of the United States who have been staunchly upholding our cause, and promise them to win total victory over the American aggressors—the most dangerous enemy of mankind and of peace.

How lofty is the solidarity, support and assistance of our friends all over the world!

SOUTH VIET NAM

In Our Liberated Zones

Determination to study

— Recently, the NFL Committee and the delegation of the RSVN PRG in Central Nam Bo held a conference to assess the achievements recorded by the people and army in establishing and consolidating the liberated zone over the past 20 months. The meeting's report said that over 193,000 US and Saigon troops had been killed or disbanded, 378 posts overrun or forced to withdraw. More than 9,000,000 inhabitants including peasants and people from all walks of life had risen up to regain control and established the revolutionary power throughout the area.

— On the 2nd founding anniversary of the RSVN PRG, the cultural and information services in West Nam Bo and Kien Tuong province met to review their educational, cultural and press activities and worked out new orientations for their tasks in the period to come.

After the meeting, all these services' personnel fanned out all over the area to help production and combat, make their contribution to shape a new life in the liberated zone.

— In March and May 1971, over 100,000 people attended a film screened by the roving projection teams of the West Nam Bo cultural and information service. The shock folk song and dance ensembles of Can Tho, Tra Vinh and Ca Mau, penetrated into the vicinities of towns and localities to stage performances for nearly 100,000 attendances. And more than 20,000 Khmer nationals were present at the shows given in 60 places in Tra Vinh and Ca Mau on the occasion of the Khmer national festival.

A Short Saigon Who's Who

NGUYEN CAO KY

When born: September 8, 1930

Where born: Son Tay, North Viet Nam

— His records as a mercenary with the French and US agent in South Viet Nam:

1948-1954:

— Sept. 30, 1951: joined the French army

— 1952: attended the Reserve Officers School in Nam Dinh

— 1954: sent to the Avord Air Force School (France)

SINCE 1954:

— 1955: attended the Air Commandant Staff School (United States)

— Commander of the Air Transport Division

— Air Commodore of South Viet Nam

— Vice-President of South Viet Nam

WHAT HE HAS SAID:

"People asked me who my idols are. I have only one idol and he is Hitler. We need four or five Hitlers in Viet Nam."

In an interview to the *London Sunday Mirror*, July 4, 1965.

WHAT HAS BEEN SAID ABOUT HIM:

"He (Ky) is there because we put him in. He wouldn't last two weeks without us. I don't think he has any choice, but to do what the US tells him."

Fulbright, *UPI*, Jan. 23, 1967.

"The present premier of Viet Nam (Nguyen Cao Ky-*Ed.*) could not remain in power one day except for the operations of our Central Intelligence Agency and the support of our armed forces."

Stephen Young, *AP*, Jan. 7, 1966.

"The US government is perpetuating a tyrant by supporting Premier Nguyen Cao Ky in South Viet Nam. Ky is a military tyrant. We are allowing him and his puppet government to continue."

Wayne Morse, *AP*, March 5, 1966.

"The self-styled war cabinet headed by playboy general Nguyen Cao Ky is a real farce. Ky and his supporters do not represent even their own government."

Cambodian dailly *Express*, June 19, 1965.

"Ky is trying to boost the election results as much as he can in order to put a label of legality on his government."

UPI, Sept. 12, 1968.

"Ky is a wretched ambitious man and a dictator. He is a mini dictator, an air force general versed in smuggling and stealing."

Stephen Young, Dec. 20, 1968.

"Nguyen Cao Ky, that's a man with a liking for travel, pretty girls, gambling and night-club life."

French paper *Aurore*, Nov. 28, 1968.

An Australian politician has bluntly said: Ky is a tinhorn robber.

Reuter, Dec. 25, 1956.

"Ky is a vain blusterer who knows nothing, not even the elementary notions of democracy."

UPI, March 10, 1966.

"It will be futile discussing culture with a hoodlum. The only thing Nguyen Cao Ky likes to hear is the sexy music that smells of women's flesh."

Hue Radio, April 4, 1966 during the First Corps Area's breaking away from the Saigon regime.

"Even Ky's most trusted followers have remarked that he is a good-for-nothing. For General De Gaulle, Ky is a Marrakech. At a press conference, asked to comment on Nguyen Cao Ky, De Gaulle retorted: Who is he?

Giai Phong Press Agency, Dec. 27, 1968.

"Ky is a born sharpshooter... with vocal bullets. We all know that he is a Martha Mitchell of Viet Nam."

Newsweek May, 3, 1971.

May 1971

REPEATED ASSAULTS, BIG GAINS

FOLLOWING up the big successes recorded in the previous month, the armed forces and people in South Viet Nam continually attacked in May the adversary in the three strategic areas and heavily damaged their "rural pacification" plan.

Adverse military sub-sectors under heavy fire, many posts overrun and concentration camps inmates helped in shattering enemy grip

Dozens of military sub-sectors in East Nam Bo, and several posts in the Mekong Delta region and Central Trung Bo were repeatedly and devastatingly assaulted.

In only a wave of offensives on the Dai Loc military sub-sector (Quang Nam province) in the first 5 days of May, the regional people's armed forces levelled 16 positions and put out of action over 870 adverse troops.

On the night of May 17, two companies and two platoons of enemy infantry and artillery were badly mauled in a PLAF action on a military sub-sector in Rach Gia province (West Nam Bo). Hundreds of posts were flattened in the Mekong Delta provinces. In Tra Vinh alone, some 30 of them were reduced to rubble or abandoned, and nearly 1,000 Saigon troops were knocked out of combat. Many military training centres in East Nam Bo, South Trung Bo and the High Plateaux were assailed with hundreds of casualties including cadets and officers.

Meanwhile, the enemy "rural defence forces" were severely battered everywhere, and their repressive machinery was crushed by big chunks. Hundreds of "strategic hamlets" in the Mekong Delta, in South Trung Bo and the High Plateaux, and even around cities, and on both sides of important communication lines were pulled down. Between May 20 and 23 in My Tho province, over 30,000 people rose up to tear down 42 such disguised concentration camps.

The South Vietnamese army and people also struck hard at the enemy "pacification" support troops and caused the disintegration of "civilian defence" organizations in many localities. The US-Saigon military strength was depleted by successive setbacks on the Indochina battlefields and in widespread guerilla warfare in Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos. To fill such gaps in the regular units, the enemy tried hard to impress youths but their difficulties were compounded by the people's growing resistance against the "pacification" plan and forcible recruitment. The so-called enemy "plan for rural defence and regional development" truly met with failure at its very start.

Important adverse logistic bases hard hit and enemy raids foiled in outer perimeter

Also in May, the patriotic forces in North Quang Tri raided a series of US-Saigon logistic bases, especially those along Highway 9. More than 1,000 American and Saigon troops were wiped out, 50 aircraft wrecked and 17 ammunition and petrol storages set afire. At the Cua Viet rivermouth, the regional forces sank on May 23 the 300th enemy ship on the waterway from Cua Viet rivermouth to Dong Ha.

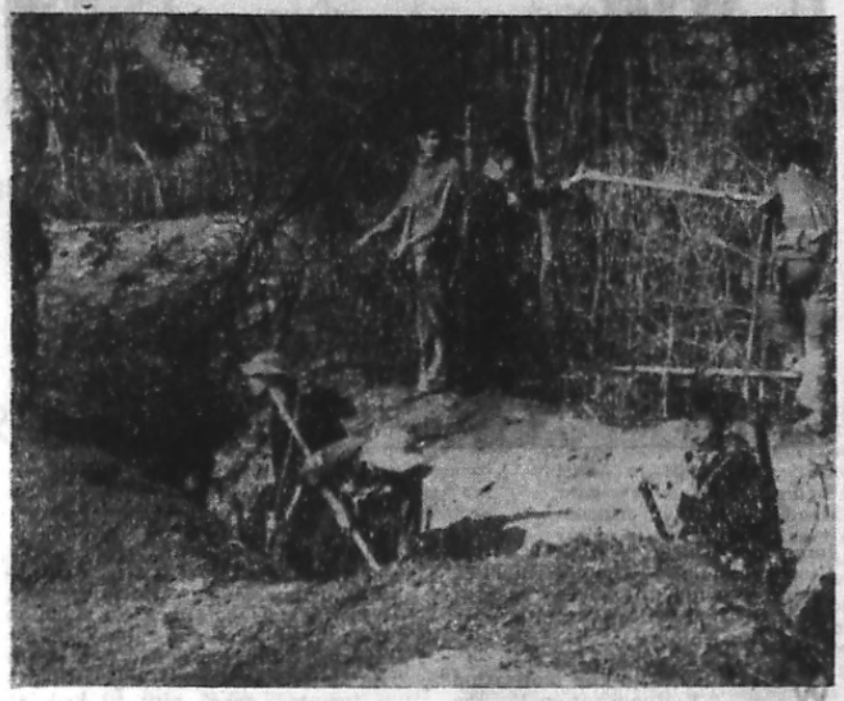
In Central Trung Bo and the High Plateaux, over 10 US-Saigon air, naval and infantry joint bases came under assault and sustained big losses. The night onset of May 23 on the US logistic area in Cam Ranh did short work of 45 million litres of petrol including 10 million of litres of fuel for jet planes. The Tay Ninh airport, 150 km north-west of Saigon, was again stormed. A 450-square metre dump of shells was also completely erased.

In the meantime, a series of enemy raids in the outer perimeter were beaten off. The so-called "Operation Lam Son 720" around A So valley, 50 km south-west of Hue, which had been dragging on since April to regain some political influence after their bitter failure on Highway 9 not only failed to reach its "modest objective" but also suffered a heavy reverse.

From April 30 to May 25 alone, nearly 1,000 GIs and Saigon troops were reported on the casualty list; and a big amount of war materials, mostly, helicopters ruined.

The adverse protracted operation in U Minh area (West Nam Bo) ended in a fiasco. Attempts to rescue the beleaguered posts in that area were foiled one after another.

Guerilla warfare was spreading, helping the people push up their political action. The aggregate strength of the people's war was responsible for the US-quislings' worsening defensive position and many setbacks.



Building fighting village

WOMEN GUERILLAS STORM A SAIGON POST

CONFRONTING a Saigon militia company at village S., My Tho province, was a female guerilla team under Muoi. S.garrison consisted of wicked pacification agents, and served a springboard for incursions into the neighbouring areas. At a meeting representatives of S. and the adjoining villages had assigned to Muoi's group the task of removing it.

A plan was soon worked out and, in execution of it, Road 4 was chopped up in many places, and combat trenches dug by guerillas on all sides of the garrison, close to its barbed-wire fences. Muoi's and her mates' sniping pinned down the thugs in their fortications. None of them dared venture outside not even to fetch food or drinking water. Raids and searches so frequent until then were stopped short.

Their commanding officers of higher echelons though perfectly aware of the situation, refused to send rescueing missions. They merely ordered the chief of the beleaguered company to try to wipe out the investing guerilla team. But as soon as the post's gate opened, fire shots from the trenches around knocked down twenty ruffians of the most truculent who were summarily buried in shallow graves near the enclosure. The stink was even perceived by the besiegers in their trenches.

The guerillas tightened their noose. Sensing that panic among the adversary was almost general, they started agitation work. Muoi, holding up a NFL flag, walked in the van, followed by Mme Ba with a "three stripes," * and a large crowd. She shouted: "Hello! Hello! Let's cease fire, we are coming to visit our relatives and bringing them tea."

In spite of the commanders' reluctance, the thirsty and hungry militiamen who felt safe because they saw only civilians, rushed through the gate. Without hesitation they opened it and the "visitors" got in in no while.

Muoi saw a haggard-faced soldier leaning against the wall of a bunker. She winked at Mme Ba who then threw down her flag and went to the man.

"Good heavens! Is it you, Bay?" she exclaimed. "Why haven't you come home to see your wife for so long? Why are you so thin? Are you sick?"

Then she poured out some hot tea and handed it to the militiaman:

"You must be thirsty. Drink this."

The man stared at the cup, visibly with an earnest desire to take it and some suspicion at the same time.

"You're afraid it's poisoned, aren't?"

Mrs Ba gulped down the cup and filled another one for him.

The lieutenant commanded his men to herd the crowd in the courtyard. Facing them he asked:

"The Viet Cong has told you to come here, haven't they?"

Muoi stepped out and came up to him.

"Nobody has," she said most calmly. "Our husbands, brothers and sons are with you. For several days you and the Viet Cong have been fighting hard. Plenty of government troops have been killed. We've risked our lives coming here to make sure which of our relatives have died, which have survived."

"Who's told you plenty of government troops have been killed?," the officer replied with a scowl. "Nonsense!"

"Then let us see our relatives," Muoi retorted, staring into his face as calmly as ever. The company leader was flabbergasted. His men pressed around him, in an uproar:

"Sir, allow us to see our relatives." In the meantime, Mme Ba and other women and girls had slipped out and begun distributing tea and looking for their people among the troops.

The whole garrison resounded with greetings and calls.

"Mamma, here I am."

"Auntie Ut!"

"Is it you Nam, sister darling!"

The post chief desperatedly blew his whistle to assemble his men: the latter gathered around the "visitors" and the NFL flag to listen to news about their families and hamlets, to a talk about their fellow-countrymen's feeling of sympathy for them, and about the policy of the Liberation Front toward them. Finally, Muoi held high the Front's banner and the crowd marched back.

After nightfall ten militiamen deserted in full kit. Many others followed suit the next few days.

Water and food shortage sank the morale of the garrison to a new ebb. The lieutenant decided to shift part of his remaining soldiers to the Cai Lay subsector. On Road 4 they fell into an ambush: a number was killed, all the remnants surrendered.

Working in conjunction with NFL men in the garrison, disguised guerillas unexpectedly broke into the stronghold. Caught unawares, what had remained of the company put their hands up. To their great satisfaction, villagers flocked in to help the guerillas level the post and round up enemy informers and ruffians. Many people shed tears of joy at the sight of the NFL flag flying over the revolutionary committee seat.

HUONG TUAN VU

* *Flag of the Saigon regime*

DRVN LEADERS GREET PRG's ANNIVERSARY

WARMEST greetings were sent on the occasion of the second founding anniversary of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government (June6) by President **Ton Duc Thang** of the DRVN, Chairman of the Presidium of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front Central Committee; **Truong Chinh**, Chairman of the DRVN National Assembly Standing Committee; and Premier **Pham Van Dong**, to Lawyer **Nguyen Huu Tho**, Chairman of the Presidium of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, and Chairman of the Advisory Council of the RSVN PRG; and Architect **Huynh Tan Phat**, President of the RSVN PRG.

The message said:

"Over the past two years, under the glorious banner of the South Viet Nam NFL and the RSVN PRG, our heroic countrymen in the South, developing their winning position since the Spring of 1968, have launched repeated attacks, foiling step by step the US "Vietnamization of the war" program, checking their extremely barbarous "pacification" operations, defending the liberated zone, building and consolidating the revolutionary administration. The movement in the urban areas to demand the US to end its aggression speedily withdraw all the US troops from South Viet Nam, topple the Thieu-Ky-Khiem junta, restore peace and democracy and improve living standards has developed vigorously and continually. The Thieu-Ky-Khiem puppet administration has been isolated to a high degree and its inner contradictions have sharpened day by day. The recent victories of strategic significance of the army and people in South Viet Nam and Laos on the Highway 9, Khe Sanh and Southern Laos fronts, together with the big victories of the Cambodian people in Kompong Cham, Kratié and Snuol... have dealt heavy blows at the "Vietnamization of the war" program and the "Nixon doctrine" in Asia, creating a new tide very favourable to the resistance of the peoples of the three Indochinese countries against the US aggressors and their henchmen. On the diplomatic field, the South Vietnamese people have recorded many new achievements, further raising the prestige and position of the South Viet Nam NFL and the RSVN PRG in the international arena."

The message continued:

"The great, all-round and very glorious victories of our South Vietnamese compatriots have vigorously encouraged the people in North Viet Nam to do their best to increase production, build a new life, strengthen the economic and defence potential, wholeheartedly fulfil their duty as the great rear toward the great heroic forefront, and their international duty to the Lao and Cambodian peoples, and at the same time, always uphold their vigilance, stand ready to fight and smash the military adventures of the US imperialists against the DRVN.

The Nixon administration is stubbornly pursuing its war of aggression in the Indochinese countries, but it is meeting with enormous difficulties on the Indochinese battlefronts, in the United States and in the world. The "Vietnamization of the war" program and the "Nixon doctrine," or what any act of military adventure and manœuvre the US imperialists and henchmen may resort to cannot save them from total failure in South Viet Nam as well as in Laos and Cambodia.

Our countrymen in the North, together with those in the South, are resolved to act upon the sacred Testament of our beloved President Ho Chi Minh, strengthen their solidarity with the peoples of Laos and Cambodia, overcome all difficulties and hardships, forge ahead victoriously, persist in and step up their struggle, and bring their anti-US resistance for national salvation to total victory."

ON THE POLITICAL FRONT IN MAY

A Two-Pronged Offensive

IN May political actions by various strata of the urban population for better living conditions and democratic freedoms, for peace, for the pull-out of US troops and the removal of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem trio, unfolded with fierceness and without let-up.

The ruling junta stepped up repressive measures in proportion to their setbacks, thus pouring oil on the flame. The beginning of the month witnessed protests by employees of US-quislings' enterprises in Saigon, Cholon, Gia Dinh and other cities all over South Viet Nam. Under multifarious forms such as meetings, demonstrations, teach-ins, walkouts, labouring people spearheaded their attack on US "Vietnamization of the war," and Thieu's "seven economic measures." Leaflets were distributed and slogans appeared in the streets, in front of American offices and public services buildings, claiming higher wages, cutback of work-hours, liberty for trade-unions, social equality. Labourers were called on to resist fines and dismissals, social evils generated by American occupation and quisling regime, for the withdrawal of American troops and the scrapping of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique.

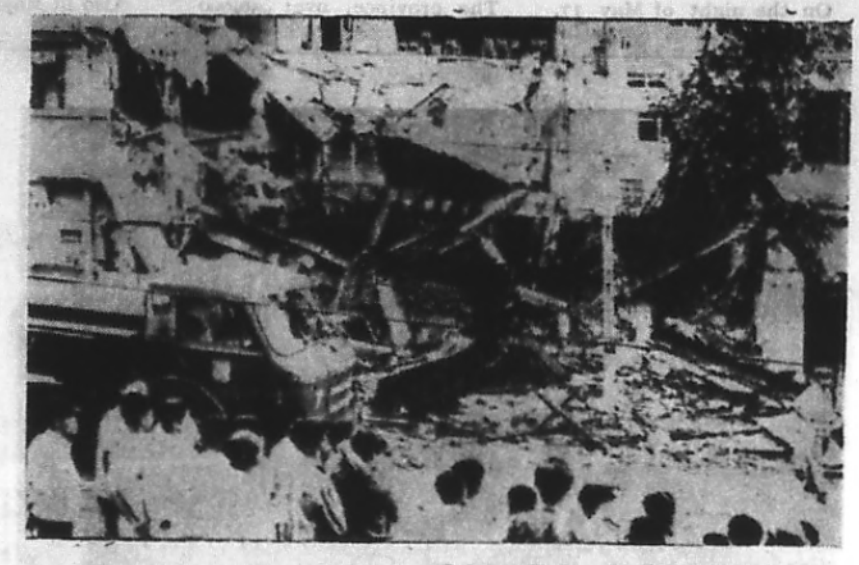
Typical were the general strike of 4,000 railway workers throughout South Viet Nam for a pay rise of 65%, the walkout of 700 workers of the Esso petroleum company in protest against the lay-off of their comrades, that of 100,000 workers, members of 21 trade-unions of Saigon public and private enterprises, the one-week ca' canny by 800 workers of Dacotex against arbitrary sacking, and so on. Public attention was focussed on the action taken by 200 venders who, coming from the provincial capital of Ben Tre, went to squat, with shaved heads, in front of the Saigon Parliament. They protested the dispersal of petty traders from the city's market place.

The above moves aroused wide repercussions and enlisted the resolute backing of various walks of life. The Teachers' General Association, the Saigon Buddhists' Association and the Movement for the People's Self-Determination wrote or sent petitions to the "National Assembly" urging satisfaction of the workers' demands.

In the meantime the movement of the Buddhists and other social segments for an end to the war flared up on Buddha's birth anniversary (May 9) in Saigon, Cholon, Gia Dinh, Hue, Da Nang, Qui Nhon, Can Tho, My Tho and other urban centres. That day in Saigon city and periphery large street demonstrations were held and prayers said in pagodas for the restoration of peace. 50,000 people attended a mass at the An Quang Pagoda. They carried banners demanding US troop withdrawal and right for the South Vietnamese to settle their own affairs without foreign interference. Hundreds of peace doves and balloons were released over Saigon.

In Hue, 20,000 Buddhist believers staged a peace march through the streets on May 9. Woman bonze Nguyen Thi Co and priest Thich Chou Che immolated themselves by burning respectively at Cam Lo Pagoda and Dong Khanh Square in protest against US aggression and for the reestablishment of peace.

New peace organizations emerged: a branch of the People's Front to Secure Peace in Hue on May 2, another one in Tra Vinh provincial capital on May 10 and on the same day, in the same town, a branch of the Women's Movement to Defend the Right To Live. These organizations stated: "One cannot have peace by merely dreaming of it or begging for it, even prayers do not suffice; the main thing is that all men and women should unite into a fighting unit... the prerequisite to the return of peace is that the foreigners should withdraw from Viet Nam for the Vietnamese people to achieve it on the basis of their right to self-determination."



Saigon Taxe Servic destroyed on the night of May 5, 1971.

WITH a view to the realization of "Vietnamization," the Thieu-Ky-Khiem troika bent their efforts on troop concentrations and impress of youths to fill their serious manpower gaps on various battlefields. The rounding-up of youngmen, regardless of their age and health condition, triggered violent reaction among large sections of the population in the occupied zone. Students carried on their drive for academic autonomy and women their own for the return of their relatives drafted into the Saigon army. In Soc Trang women climbed on military vehicles to snatch their husbands, brothers or sons from the hands of the quislings, while others barred the way to personnel carriers. In My Tho and Ben Tre provinces the resistance against troop concentrations and draft took place with unabated violence and scored successes in many places.

To hoodwink public opinion, the Thieu-Ky-Khiem junta made use of their laws and police machine to deal with all those who dared more or less bare their corrupt, rotten regime. More grossly than ever, they violated the liberty of the press. Fines and seizures were daily occurrences: from March 1970 to May 1971, *Tin Sang* (Morning News) was banned 127 times. So much so that members of the rubber-stamp Saigon Lower House had to state in its May 19 sitting: "Legislation is a 'painted cake' nice to look at but actually useless, for indiscriminate arrests are all too frequently made in defiance of the law. The prevailing legislation just serves as an ornament for the regime to show a semblance of democracy, in fact the administration seeks every means to make it invalid." *Tin Dien* (Telegraph) wrote: "The people are muzzled, nobody has the right to raise his voice and say what he thinks. The people no longer recognize Thieu-Ky-Khiem's second republic."

Coupled with military activities, political drives mounted by the townsfolk for better living conditions, democratic liberties, and peace, and against forcible draft and «Vietnamization» have aggravated the predicament of the Americans and the Saigon administration. By launching new campaigns of persecution as the "presidential elections" are drawing near, the enemy of the South Vietnamese people are only adding fuel to the fire.

NIEN NGUYEN

GRAND MEETING MARKS PRG ANNIVERSARY

** President Huynh Tan Phat calls on the people and the liberation armed forces of South Viet Nam to strengthen solidarity, and to persist in, and step up, the resistance against the US aggressors, for national salvation.*

ON June 5, a grand commemoration of the second founding anniversary of the RSVN PRG was held by the Council of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

Present at the meeting were many Ministers and Vice - Ministers, members of the Advisory Council of the RSVN PRG, representatives of the Presidium of the South Viet Nam NFL Central Committee, the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Alliance of National Democratic and Peace Forces and of PLAF units, mass organizations and administrative organs.

In face of a new revolutionary situation, President Huynh Tan Phat called upon PLAF officers and men, people of both the rural and urban areas, workers, toiling people, political forces, religious bodies opposed to the Saigon administration, intellectuals, patriotic personalities and Vietnamese residents abroad to follow up the successes recorded in all fields, to persist in and to step up, the resistance against the US aggressors, for national salvation, to launch sustained attacks on the enemy on the military, political and diplomatic fronts and to foil the "pacification" plan and "Vietnamization of the war" of the US imperialists and their flunkeys.

On behalf of the Provisional Revolutionary Government, President Huynh Tan Phat expressed the warm affection of the people of South Viet Nam for their 20 million fellow-countrymen in the North who are standing side by side with them in an effort to defeat the aggressors and voiced deep gratitude for the great and effective assistance given by the fraternal peoples, governments and friends all over the world to the South Vietnamese people.

Concluding his speech, President Huynh Tan Phat stressed: "Mindful of beloved and respected President Ho Chi Minh's behests that 'nothing is more precious than independence and freedom,' and 'so long as there remains a single aggressor on our soil, we have to fight on to drive him away,' and implementing his sacred Testament, the Provisional Revolutionary Government, whatever hardships and difficulties it might have to overcome, is determined to lead the entire people in South Viet Nam to unite millions as one, to persist in, and to step up, the struggle against the US aggressive war and to defeat their "Vietnamization of the war," to build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam, to proceed to the reunification of the country, and shoulder to shoulder with the Lao and Cambodian peoples to drive the US aggressors out of Indochina."

Representatives of mass organizations and the PLAF took the floor in turn. They expressed their joy at the great achievements of the South Vietnamese and the fraternal Lao and Khmer peoples, and their resolve to materialize and uphold continuously the sound lines and policies of the RSVN PRG.

The rally ended in an atmosphere of joy and confidence in the strength of militant solidarity between the Vietnamese and the other peoples in Indochina, who are resolved to march forward to final victory.

the Wonderful "xuồng ba lá"*

RESPONDING to the call for national salvation of fisherman Nguyen Trung Truc, over one century ago, in 1859, the people on the banks of the Vam Co river and in the Plain of Reeds loaded "Xuong Ba La" with straw and set fire to the s/s Esperance of the French aggressors at Vam Nhut Tao (now Tan An). Right at that time the fishermen's wooden boats were already a war means and went down in the history of resistance to foreign aggression of the South Vietnamese, chiefly the riverine dwellers.

Here, the people along the rivers and canals cherish their "Xuong Ba La" as a worker does his machines, a cyclist his bike, and a soldier his rifle, because the "Xuong Ba La" is in flooded areas an indispensable means of conveyance and transport. It is mainly made of three wooden "planks," but whether it is beautiful, durable, swift, roomy or not depends on the skill and aesthetic sense of the carpenter. Smaller, it carries a man and bigger, it can even transport a group of soldiers to the front. It can be a single-oared boat, a double-oared boat or an eight-oared boat. It can be paddled at the prow or at the stern. It is very mobile in that it can be used in deep or shallow water, it can be dragged on a sandbank or carried on men's shoulders while crossing a dam. With all these conveniences it is now of a greater and greater use in the people's life and in the fighting.

During the resistance war against the French carried out by millions of patriotic - minded people to wrest back independence and freedom, millions of "Xuong Ba La" also made their appearance on South Viet Nam water ways, carrying soldiers, or linking together various resistance bases separated by the enemy. For long operations, double-oared boats and four-oared boats are used, for secrecy's sake, paddles are used instead of oars. To intercept the enemy, our fighters usually pole their boats across swamps and flooded ricefields.

The "Xuong Ba La" carries soldiers to the front and war booty to the rear. It takes foods and fruit from old mothers to their fighting sons, and young girls to meet their fiancés after a fierce battle. In the flood season, in the immense Plain of Reeds the "Xuong Ba La" is the rendez-vous of lovers. From these boats on moonlit nights can be heard a girl's high-pitched voice so sweet to the ears of a soldier returning from a victorious battle. And how graceful is a boat-woman pulling her oars forward!

In the war of resistance against the US, "Xuong Ba La" of course are the best means of navigation of the "long hair" militants in the fens to go to towns and cities and carry out political actions against the US quislings. The "Xuong Ba La" transport division-sized groups of white-headed women to the enemy's sanctuaries to demand the return of the children and grand children or carry troops to various fronts; they even surround enemy ships, preventing them from launching "sweeps." Propelled by a motor they can engage in hot pursuit of fleeing adverse troops on the Saigon river, in the Plain of Reeds or in the U Minh forest.

South Viet Nam army heroine Nguyen Thi Ut used a "Xuong Ba La" to collect intelligence on a military post and to send troops to wipe out the enemy garrison there. Nguyen Van Be, an army carrier from My Tho province, has become immortal by carrying ammunition to the front on a "Xuong Ba La." It was with a motor-propelled "Xuong Ba La" that French writer Madeleine Riffaud went up the Saigon river for a look at Saigon, during her visited many liberated areas in Nam Bo.

The fight against the US aggression is going on in the South. There will be millions and millions of "Xuong Ba La" going up and down the Saigon river, the Vam Co Dong, the Long Tau river, Hau Giang, Mekong rivers and other waterways to the front and to bring back to the rear many successes.

How wonderful is the "Xuong Ba La"!

TAM DUONG

* *The sampan*

SOUTH VIET NAM, the land, people and history

Cambodia - May 1971

CNLAF Attacks on All Fronts Big Victory at Snuol

WHILE carrying out intense military activities throughout Cambodia, the Khmer people and NLAF distinguished themselves particularly at the Snuol cross-road, *AKI* reported.

Snuol is part of the US-puppet Suong-Krech Snuol defensive triangle. On May 26, a violent CNLAF attack on Snuol inflicted heavy losses on the Saigon troops. On the following days, the people's forces fought off all counter-attacks and repelled relief columns coming from the South Viet Nam border. The US Air Force made great efforts at Snuol: armed helicopters flying 600 missions in 2 days to support the Saigon troops and B52's being concentrated on this objective at the expense of other fronts *(AP* — May 28). Badly mauled after 4 days' encirclement, the enemy troops in Snuol retreated on May 30 under US air and artillery cover. Ambushed outside the city, they suffered thousands of casualties, and lost hundreds of military vehicles. The remains of the troops tried to regroup with the 3rd Battalion (8th Task Force), stationed 6 km southeast of the Snuol cross-road. Attacked there again, they fled into the forest, leaving behind vehicles, guns and other arms and pursued by the CNLAF who called hundreds of them to surrender. On May 31, the routed Saigon troops completly withdrew from this part of Khmer territory. No Saigon soldier was any longer to be seen in Kratié.

On May 30 alone, the CNLAF wiped out the Saigon 8th Task Force and the Saigon 1st Armoured Regiment (including the 8th Task Force CP, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 8th Regiment, the 4th Battalion of the 7th Regiment, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd Squadrons of the 1st Armoured Regiment, the 1st Squadron of the 5th Armoured Regiment, and a mixed artillery battalion). They killed and wounded 1,500 enemy troops, captured 300 others, seized or destroyed nearly 200 military vehicles (50 intact ones), shot down 5 aircraft captured 500 arms of all types and 300 tons of munitions, gained entire control of the city and plantation of Snuol.

The spokesman of the Saigon army acknowledged that the Saigon troops had to leave behind many tanks and trucks in a stampede under enemy pressure (according to *UPI*-June 1).

Among other CNLAF actions, noteworthy were those at Svai Rieng and Prey Veng from May 11 to 17: in a sweep by 2 task forces and 1 armoured regiment, Saigon lost 400 men, 7 vessels, 4 aircraft and 4 M.113s. On May 13 and 14, Lon Nol troops from Siemreap sweeping the Angkor area were intercepted; having sustained 200 casualties, they had to come back to the city. At Kompong Cham, local troops and guerillas repeatedly attacked Saigon and Phnom Penh troops from May 22 to 27 on Highway 7 and about the city, putting out of action nearly 300 men, destroying or capturing 6 military vehicles, 60 arms and shooting down 1 helicopter.

The successes of the Khmer people and NLAF in May, particularly the Snuol victory, showed that they were still holding the initiative. As a consequence, the Saigon mobile forces, props of the Phnom Penh army, were weakened and driven deeper and deeper into the defensive.

An Irremediable Weakness of the Saigon Army

BRITISH Journalist Martin Woollacott in Saigon has depicted in an article the true nature of the Saigon army as a mercenary of the US imperialists.

The article entitled "The Army of Corruption" and published in the *Guardian Weekly* on March 6, 1971, said in part:

"... Notoriously this is a corrupt army. Officers — virtually all officers, in the best units as well as in the worst — make money out of selling permission to go on leave, carrying ghosts on the payroll, taking kickbacks from unofficial PX shops, selling promotions, selling permission not to go on operations, selling army stores, and, at least in the past, accepting bribes from the Viet Cong."

Dealing with the impact of this decaying army and its relations with the US expeditionary army, the article said: "... The army corruption systems taps the whole society of soldiers' families as well as the soldiers themselves, and civil society as a whole, because army officers effectively run the districts and provinces ... Many intelligent officers, both American and South Vietnamese, feel that it is this growing identity between the best South Vietnamese units and their American counterparts which represents the greatest potential weakness ..."

Truly, the Saigon troops, officers and men alike, have been fighting without an ideal and taking up arms only to kill people and plunder their property. Therefore, it is no wonder that its record is one of bloody setbacks, its ranks have been going to pieces and its morale seriously deteriorating day by day.

The US imperialists have been resorting to a thousand and one tricks to convert the Saigon army into an instrument of their aggression, but no measure can revive such a moribund army.

The US has at times committed masses of troops to South Viet Nam, hoping to improve this tragic situation of the Saigon army, but both the American and Saigon troops have been drubbed by an unusually stubborn and courageous opponent who is always ready to fight for a lofty cause, the liberation of his homeland. They have to cope with an army with a high resolve "to fight and to win," an expert military guidance and a combat skill tempered by 26 years of revolutionary action.

Now with their sagging morale, the US expeditionary troops instead of being the mainstay of the Saigon army have instilled in it ever greater doubt and discouragement. The British paper *Sunday Express* on April 11, 1971 pointed out that to fight a war with a giant (the US expeditionary army-*Ed.*) with a low morale and with his neck in a noose is an uphill and thankless job... Once the American troops were needed to serve as the core of the Viet Nam army, but today they cannot even act as their own core. High on drugs, plagued by constant mutinies, defeatism and incapability, the American troops now are a real threat to the security of South Viet Nam (Saigon administration — *Ed.*) itself.

Reality on the battlefields recently has further testified to the seriously sinking morale of the US troops, especially of the Saigon army before the devastating military attacks of the South Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian peoples. Into their adventurous aggression against South Laos, the US imperialists threw almost all the strategic reserve forces known as Saigon's crack task force. Despite reactionary political indoctrination, the co-ordinated actions of an armada of US air force and a great contingent of American combat troops, the Saigon troops met with humiliating failure. The People's Liberation Army in South Laos, combining combat with persuation work among enemy troops, captured or talked into surrender more than 1,000 enemy men including many officers from colonel rank downwards. This was a heavy blow at the downgrading morale of both the US and Saigon troops.

Correspondent Jean Rougier of the French paper *Le Figaro* has deseribed the mood of a Saigon senior officer accompanying him to the battlefront as follows:

"Though provided with all kinds of war equipment such as a helmet, a bullet-proof jacket and sitting between Rougier and a Japanese journalist in a helicopter, he was still trembling with fear." As the officers are in such a state of panic, the men must be in a worse disposition. As a result, they have been seeking to refuse marching orders, desert, rebel and protest against the war.

According to still incomplete figures, since early this year, about 40,000 Saigon troops have left their ranks. In Central and West Nam Bo (South Viet Nam proper) alone, over 3,000 men went A.W.O.L. in April. Such a state of thing has greatly depleted the troop strength and affected numerous units such as Divisions 1, 7, 9, 21...

Deliberate breaking of discipline to be put in prison has been widespread. Self-inflicting of wounds to avoid being sent on raids has been quickly spreading in the regular army and civil guards. The deserters have assembled into an organization who mounts guard over itself and enjoys the people's protection to dodge being forced back into the army. Bribes of one or two million piastres have been paid to superiors not to be dispatched to Laos or Cambodia, or gifts of hundreds of thousands of piastres have been offered to get permission to come home. Many have committed suicide like Lieutenant Nghia in Central Nam Bo when he was ordered to go to Laos.

To cope with such a wave of desertions, the enemy has sent police agents to raid main crossroads or bolt up important communication lines, but the hired thugs have been rendered impotent by the complicity of the people's, soldiers' families and even officers and soldiers in the same boat.

Under the "Vietnamization" program, the US imperialists have been striving to impress youths and re-equip the Saigon army, and turn it into a strategic force to replace the American troops gradually withdrawing from South Viet Nam. In addition, with the "Vietnamization" strategic formula: "Saigon infantry + US support," they have been using aircraft and tanks to shore up the Saigon troops' morale. But what has been happening in the South Viet Nam battlefield as well as in Indochina as a whole has proved that in face of the Indochinese armies' and people's vigorous and resourceful attacks, the morale of the Saigon troops, even of the crack strategic reserve forces, has been slumping.

The big losses in war materials such as aircraft, tanks, armoured cars, weapons... can be re-couped but the Saigon troops' dwindling fighting spirit following recent reverses not only cannot be boosted but also has been spreading from the battlefront to the localities, from the strategic reserve forces to the civil guard and militia forces.

The ARVIN present disintegration will continue and generate greater difficulties to the enemy. Therefore, however up-to-date may be the US war materials given to it and whatever the amount of money poured into South Viet Nam, the US imperialists cannot bolster up the Saigon soldiery's declining morale and salvage "Vietnamization."

The fate of Saigon 1st Division mercenaries

Lao People's Delegation Visits Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

Prince Souphanouvong cordially talking with South Viet Nam heroes and valiant fighters

AT the invitation of President Ton Duc Thang, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, H.H. Prince Souphanouvong, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Lao Patriotic Front, headed a Lao people's Delegation on a friendship visit to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam from May 24 to 30, 1971.

On May 30, with President Ton Duc Thang and H.H. Prince Chairman Souphanouvong respectively at the head of the Delegations of DRVN and Lao people held talks and issued a joint communique.

It strongly condemned the US imperialists' hysteric war expansion in Indochina and said:

"The Vietnamese people in the South, under the clear-sighted leadership of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, have valiantly overcome all difficulties and hardships they have promoted their initiative, mounted continuous offensives and uprisings, and stepped up the people's war; they have wiped out many US-Saigon troops, destroyed great quantities of war material, dealt powerful blows at the "pacification" policy, and expanded their control in many areas. The urban people's struggle has undergone a powerful and continuous growth. The Thieu — Ky — Khiem puppet administration has been driven into utter isolation and torn by sharpening contradictions. The South Vietnamese people has frustrated step by step the US imperialists' "Vietnamization" plan, are marching forward to completely defeat it."

After warmly hailing the Indochinese peoples, recent great successes, particularly that of strategic significance of the Lao and South Vietnamese peoples on Highway 9 and pointing to the US imperialists' already evident defeat and their multiple difficulties in the United States and the world, the joint communique stated:

"The United States must put an end to its aggression, completely and unconditionally withdraw all US and satellite troops from the Indochinese countries and let the people in each of them settle their own affairs without foreign interference.

The Viet Nam problem must be solved on the basis of the ten-point overall solution and the eight-point clarification set forth by the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. The US government must completely and unconditionally pull all US troops and those of the foreign countries in the US camp out of South Viet Nam and set a date to this operation, it must with hold support from the Thieu — Ky — Khiem clique, and leave the South Vietnamese people to form a provisional coalition government, and organize truly free and democratic general elections. The US government must permanently stop all encroachments on the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam."

"The Lao problem must be settled," it continued, "on the basis of the 5-point political solution and the April 27, 1971 proposal of the Lao Patriotic Front. The US government must strictly respect and correctly implement the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos, and stop its intervention and aggression in Laos: as an immediate step, the United States must completely stop the bombing throughout the Lao territory without laying down any condition whatsoever, so that the armed forces in Laos can achieve an immediate ceasefire and stop all encroachments on the areas under the control of the other side, and that the Lao parties concerned can enter into immediate discussions on the formation of a provisional coalition government and other problems, including the guarantee of strict respect for the neutrality of the Kingdom of Laos as provided for in the 1962 Geneva Agreements."

After extolling the splendid development of the militant solidarity between the peoples of Viet Nam and Laos, the joint communique concluded:

"True to the Joint Statement of the Summit Conference of the Indochinese Peoples, the Vietnamese and Lao peoples are resolved to further strengthen their solidarity with the Khmer people, persevere in, and step up, the fight together in order to bring for national liberation struggle of the three countries to final victory, to turn Indochina into a real zone of peace including independent states, and to ensure that South Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia will follow the path of independence, peace and neutrality."

Laos — May 1971

Stormy Onsets — The Bolovens re-occupied by the Patriotic Forces

ACCORDING to KPL, the Lao people and patriotic forces launched attacks in all theatres from North to South, particularly on Highway 9, in Muong Phalane, Dong Hen, Seno, Keng Ta Ngan, Houei Sai, Houei Xong, the Bolovens High Plateau, and other places in South Laos. In close co-ordination with the patriotic forces in South Laos, those in Xieng Khoang continually struck at the enemy at Sam Thong - Long Cheng, Phou pha Ngan, north of Khang Kho. The regional forces and guerillas in Louang Prabang, Oudomsay, Phong Saly, Louang Nam Tha, Cammon, Balikhamsay, Samneua and Vientiane have repeatedly assailed the enemy troops and pirates engaged in sabotage in the liberated areas.

According to incomplete figures, in May 1971 the patriotic forces put out of action over 2,000 enemy troops (including 400 who surrendered or were captured, shot down 19 aircraft, destroyed many military vehicles (with 4 tanks and armoured cars), blasted 3 bridges, destroyed 4 military dumps, collected 400 arms and radio sets.

Their most remarkable victory was recorded in the Bolovens High Plateau, where 3 Thai battalions stationed at Houei Sai had for nearly one year been piling up crimes against nationalities living in the North. A Pak Song and Houei Kong, Vientiane commandos and other troops had never ceased bullying the population. In mid-May, the Lao patriotic forces mounted violent onsets on the Bolovens, while hitting at Muong Phalane and the enemy den at Dong Hen, west of Highway 9. In May alone, the people and PLAF in Southern Laos knocked out of action over 1,000 enemy troops occupied Phalane and the whole Bolovens High Plateau, liberating thousands of people.

In Xieng Khoang, the patriotic forces intercepted US - Vang Pao troops coming from Sam Thong - Long Cheng to the North and east of Long Cheng, while attacking them at Boum Long, Phuphasay, wiping out a great number of them.

At Pak San, a starting base for "mopping-up" operations and concentration place for inhabitants herded from the Xieng Khoang liberated area, the patriotic forces raided the 206th battalion PCP, the airstrip and the logistic base, killing many officers, destroying 50 armoured cars including one tank.

Another striking feature in May was the fact that regional troops and guerillas in Vientiane and Louang Prabang gave battle to raiders on Highway 13, causing heavy casualties and losses in material. Regional troops and guerillas in Udomsay stormed the Ban Muong post putting out of action 30 men, destroying 53 arms, 7 wireless sets and a quantity of war means.

The people's military successes in May 1971 gave a strong fillip to the large-scale political struggle in the occupied areas for the better living conditions. In many places, the people and particularly the youth strongly resisted the enemy impress.

June 6, in the whole world

ACCORDING to initial reports, activities for the 2nd founding anniversary (June 6) of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam were staged in many parts of the world.

In the socialist countries, commemorative meetings were held with many Party and State high-ranking leaders among the participants. The former delivered speeches highlighting this memorable development of the South Viet Nam Revolution and the great achievements recorded by the South Vietnamese people in the past two years, expressing support to the Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian peoples' just cause and the solutions put up by the RSVN PRG, the Lao Patriotic Front and the Royal Government of the National Union of Cambodia.

At several meetings, petitions and resolutions were passed which condemned the US stubborn prolongation and expansion of the aggressive war, and resolutely backed the three Indochinese people's fight till complete victory.

Cultural and art committees of various countries organized exhibitions, TV and film shows about the South Vietnamese people's resistance war and production, and the recent dramatic gains on the Indochina battlefront.

Cambodian Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, and Penn Nouth, Premier of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, called at the RSVN Embassy in China to give their greetings.

In Norway and Sweeden, representatives of public services and progressive organizations came to the RSVN Information Bureaux in Oslo and Stockholm to present gifts to the South Vietnamese people. On this occasion, Swedish MP Birgitta Dahl, Chairwoman of the Committee for Solidarity with Viet Nam, stressed the necessity of a prompt recognition of the RSVN PRG, and called on the Swedish people to increase effective assistance to the Vietnamese people.

The Organization in Support of the South Viet Nam NFL in Norway carried out a series of activities to mark the RSVN PRG anniversary. A play entitled "The South Vietnamese People's Heroic Struggle" was performed by progressive artistes on various stages in Oslo.

In France, delegates from different sections of the French people and of Vietnamese residents paid a visit to the RSVN PRG Delegation at the Paris Conference with greetings for this historic occasion. Vietnamese residents there also sent letters to Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho and President Huynh Tan Phat, expressing full confidence in, and support for, the RSVN PRG.

Heartfelt congratulations to PRG for its 2nd Founding Anniversary

ON the 2nd founding anniversary of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, Party and State leaders of fraternal socialist countries, State leaders of nationalist countries, leading members of national liberation movements, international, national and regional organizations, of organizations for solidarity with Viet Nam... sent messages of congratulations to Dr Nguyen Huu Tho, Chairman of the Advisory Council, and Huynh Tan Phat, President of the RSVN PRG and various mass organizations in South Viet Nam.

All the telegrammes pledge militant solidarity and friendship with the South Vietnamese people and voiced warm support for the latter's just cause under the NFL and PRG's leadership, the logic and reasonable 10-point overall solution of the NFL and PRG. They sternly condemned the US imperialists, urged an end to aggression and the total withdrawal of American and satellite troops from South Viet Nam so that the Vietnamese people can settle their own affairs themselves without foreign interference.

The message of leaders of the Communist Party of the USSR and the Soviet Government said: "The Soviet people follow with admiration the South Vietnamese people's effort which reflects collective heroism, the spirit of sacrifice and unshakeable resolve to achieve victory. The Soviet people strongly condemn Washington's policy of aggression in Indochina and express their unswerving determination to continue their support to freedom-loving Vietnamese people and other peoples on the Indochinese peninsula."

Premier Chou En-lai of the Council of State Affairs of the People's Republic of China said in his message: "In the past two years, under the sound leadership of the NFL and the RSVN PRG, the South Vietnamese people have been persistently carrying out a people's war, inflicting repeated setbacks on the Nixon administration's "Vietnamization," and winning brilliant successes. These have greatly encouraged and fanned up the world peoples' revolutionary movement, made a great contribution to the universal anti-imperialist revolutionary cause."

The message of Cambodian Head of State Norodom Sihanouk wrote: "We sincerely thank the RSVN PRG for its active friendship and real assistance to the Cambodian people, the National United Front of Kampuchea, the Royal Government of the National Union of Cambodia and the Liberation Armed Forces. We pledge wholehearted co-operation with you to constantly develop the friendship and militant solidarity which will for ever bind our two peoples."

Prince Souphanouvong, Chairman of the Lao Patriotic Front's Central Committee, said: "While the US imperialists and their hirelings, in spite of heavy setbacks, are stubbornly prolonging their aggressive war in South Viet Nam, refusing to solve the Viet Nam issue at the Paris Conference, and continuing to extend the war to Laos and Cambodia, we the Lao people, loyal to our commitments in the joint statement of Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference, will strengthen and carry on the struggle shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples to achieve still greater successes, thereby contributing a worthy part to the triumph of our common cause, to the defeat of the US imperialists and turning the Indochinese peninsula into a really independent and peaceful area."

AMERICAN PEOPLE *AGAINST WAR*

— On May 28, at a press conference in Washington a group of parents of US pilots captured in Viet Nam severely condemned Nixon and demanded the immediate withdrawal of US troops from Viet Nam. Mrs L. Joln, wife of an air-officer reported missing in Laos said that they had an impression that Nixon utilized those pilots for bargaining and prolongation of the war and as political hostages.

— From May 30 to 31, demonstrations against the aggressive war in Viet Nam were repeatedly staged in the United States by the Viet Nam Veterans Against War with the participation of tens of thousands of people in Washington, New York, Boston, Los Angeles, Detroit, Denver, Lexington, Amherst, Media...

— On May 27, the "Committee for Peace and New Priorities" consisting of several trade-union leaders and the "National Council for an Indochina Deadline" established by 50 well-known personalities stated that an effervescent popular campaign would be started to pressure the US congress into adopting measures to suppress the Indochina war budget by the end of this year.

— On May 31, about 200 American troops stationed in 9 Air Forces and Navy bases in Britain marched to London in protest against the aggressive war in Indochina. They handed a petition and message bearing a thousand signatures of air forces and navy servicemen to the US Embassy, against Nixon's "Vietnamization of the war" and for the immediate withdrawal of US troops from Indochina.

— Recently, in Des Moines, Iowa, Governor Robert D.Ray called on all Americans to struggle for peace and said how stupid the Viet Nam war really was. And in Amherst, Massachusetts, Senator Eward M. Brook, Republican, also declared: It is time for the United States to say to the world it is sorry for getting involved in Viet Nam and get out. US Secretary of the Army Stanley Resor, who had just resigned said to the press that the US had clearly not anticipated or at least underestimated the price to pay for Viet Nam, which had been at the bottom of national disharmony and dissension.

How shameful is aggression! Copenhagen Youth picket US Embassy, lowering US flag

in brief ★ in brief

– On May 30, during a friendship visit by Chile's Foreign Minister Clodomiro Almeyda to the Soviet Union, a joint communique of the Soviet Union and Chile expressed the two countries' solidarity with the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people, condemned the aggression by foreign countries against Indochina and demanded an immediate withdrawal of the troops of aggression from that area.

– On May 24, in La Paz, Bolivians initiated an "anti-imperialist week." Tens of thousand of people turned out in the streets in protest against the aggressive war in Indochina and many workers, peasants and students started a blood donation campaign in support of the three Indochinese peoples.

– Recently, in Argentina "The Viet Nam Solidarity Committee" collected two tons of quinine for Viet Nam.

– Recently, many demonstrations against the US aggressive war in Viet Nam were staged by Venezuelan students, urging National educational reform and condemning the US neo-colonial regime in their country.

– On May 31, 25 Columbian Congressmen sent a message to Nixon protesting his repression of the American movement against the aggressive war in Viet Nam and demanding an immediate withdrawal of US troops from Indochina.

SOUTH VIET NAM — CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION